

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 02857 161202Z

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 W
-----009566 161254Z /44

R 161130Z NOV 77

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0221

UNCLAS LIBREVILLE 2857

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BENC, GB

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: BRWON AND ROOT INQUIRY: TRANSGABON
SPUR AND OWENDO PORT

REFS: A. LIBREVILLE 2842

B. STATE 266089

1. EMBOFF HAD VERY CORDIAL AND USEFUL MEETING WITH
OCTRA DIRECTOR CHARLES TSIBAH MORNING OF NOVEMBER 15
AND HOPES FOLLOWING INFORMATION HELPFUL TO BROWN AND
ROOT.

2. ACCORDING TO TSIBAH, OCTRA'S TELEX HAS BEEN OUT OF
ORDER FOR SOME TIME, THUS TELEX MESSAGES FROM BROWN AND
ROOT OF OCTOBER 5 AND NOVEMBER 2 WERE NOT REPEAT NOT
RECEIVED. TSIBAH STRESSED THAT BROWN AND ROOT IS ON
LIST OF FIRMS PREQUALIFIED FOR TRANSGABON SPUR AND
THAT BID FOR ENTIRE PROJECT, RATHER THAN FOR INDIVIDUAL
LOTS, WOULD BE PERFECTLY ACCEPTABLE. SINCE BROWN AND
ROOT ON LIST, THERE IS NO REPEAT NO NEED TO RESUBMIT
DOCUMENTATION. TSIBAH SAID THAT CALL FOR BIDS FOR
TRANSGABON SPUR IS EXPECTED TO GO OUT AT END OF
NOVEMBER WITH DUE DATE IN LATED JANUARY OR BY
FEBRUARY 2 AT LATEST.

3. TSIBAH MENTIONED THAT HE WILL BE GOING TO US
ON DECEMBER 10 FOR FOUR DAYS FOR MEETING WITH TAMS

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IN NEW YORK. MINISTER OF TRANSPORT RAWIRI, ADVISER
MINKO, AND OCTRA PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR ABOGHE WILL
ALSO BE PRESENT. TSIBAH STATED THAT HE WOULD
HAND CARRY BID DOCUMENTS TO NEW YORK FOR DELIVERY TO
BROWN AND ROOT AND TO OTHER US FIRMS, AFTER
ACKNOWLEDGING THAT DELAYS IN MAIL DO EXIST.

4. TSIBAH FELT THAT PROPOSED BRONW AND ROOT VISIT IN NEAR FUTURE WOULD NOT BE ADVISABLE SINCE HE WILL BE LEAVING GABON IN ABOUT THREE WEEKS TIME AND WOULD BE ABLE TO SEE B&R REPRESENTATIVES IN NEW YORK. HE COULD BE REACHED EITHER THROUGH TAMS OFFICES OR THROUGH GABONESE MISSION TO UN.

5. FYI: TSIBAH CONFIRMED THAT OTHER US FIRMS ARE ON PREQUALIFIED LIST: MORRISON-KNUDSEN, RAYMOND INTERNATIONAL, AND KALICAK, THE LATTER FOR LOT NUMBER FOUR ONLY. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION TSIBAH INDICATED NO REPEAT NO OBJECTIO IF TELEX MESSAGES FROM US FIRMS WERE CHANNELED TO HIM THROUGH EMBASSY IN VIEW OF OCTRA TELEX DIFFICULTIES. IF B&R NEEDS TO TELEX TSIBAH ON URGENT BASIS, PLEASE ADVISE THEM THEY MAY TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EMBASSYS OFFER, AS MAY OTHER FIRMS INTERESTED IN BOTH TRANSGABON SPUR AND OWENDO PORT PROJECT.

6. APPOINTMENT WITH OPRAG DIRECTOR DAMAS TENETATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW, NOVEMBER 16. WILL CABLE REPORT ASAP. OPRAG TELEPHONES AND TELEX OUT OF ORDER. YATES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770424-0538
Format: TEL
From: LIBREVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771153/aaaabtdv.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a2673819-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION COME
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LIBREVILLE 2842, 77 STATE 266089
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 570953
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAJOR PROJECT: BRWON AND ROOT INQUIRY: TRANSGABON SPUR AND OWENDO PORT
TAGS: BENC, GB
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a2673819-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009